

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding an IL-17 receptor-related protein, said nucleic acid is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an isolated nucleic acid molecule of SEQ. ID NO: 1 ~~which encodes an IL-17 receptor-related protein~~; and

(b) an isolated nucleic acid molecule differing from the isolated nucleic acid molecules of (a) in codon sequence due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, and which encodes an IL-17 receptor-related protein.

2-4. (canceled)

5. (previously presented) An isolated genomic DNA encoding an IL-17 receptor-related protein, wherein said genomic DNA comprises coding sequences identical to nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

6. (currently amended) A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ SEQ. ID NO: 1,

~~2, 3 and 4 adapted for expression in a cell and has~~ regulatory elements necessary for ~~expressing expression of~~ said nucleic acid molecule in a ~~[[the]]~~ cell.

7. (previously presented) A recombinant host cell comprising with the vector of claim 6, wherein said vector expresses an IL-17 receptor-related protein.

8. (previously presented) The host cell of claim 7, wherein said cell is selected from group consisting of bacterial cells, mammalian cells, plant cells and insect cells.

9-21. (canceled)